

Call for
KU Postdoctoral Fellowship

Koç University is seeking highly qualified international and national researchers for postdoctoral fellowships aiming to make a significant impact globally. All fields are eligible.

1. Eligibility Criteria

Academic Qualifications:

- PhD degree
 - Proven research experience supported by strong publication record and references
 - Excellent written and oral English communication skills
 - Leadership and teamwork skills, with a track record of independent and collaborative research
 - Commitment to mentoring graduate and undergraduate researchers
 - High standards of work ethic and research integrity
 - Candidates with more than **two years** of existing postdoctoral appointment contract with Koç University are not eligible.
 - Career stage: Applicants should be within five years of completing their PhD at the time of appointment (extensions may be considered for parental leave, compulsory service, or medical reasons).
 - Preference is given to external candidates, while Koç University alumni and current affiliates are eligible if their proposed projects are clearly independent from their doctoral or previous institutional work.
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2. Position Benefits and Support

- Access to advanced research infrastructure, core facilities, and technical support
- Guidance and institutional support for national and international grant applications
- **Eligibility for Seed Grants**, providing internal funding for high-risk, high-reward pilot projects
- Opportunities to participate in scientific training programs, seminars and workshops
- Involvement in publications, patenting, entrepreneurship, and technology transfer activities

Compensation and campus benefits

- Fellowship amount (72,000 TL Net /month (will be revised in October)
- A fixed-term contract will be established for postdoctoral researchers
- Meal allowance (Set Card)
- Health insurance
- Use of library and sports facilities
- Flexible nursery benefit

3. Program Duration

- The initial appointment is for 1 year, extendable up to a maximum of 2 years (1+1) based on performance and funding availability.
- The fellowship is expected to start within a maximum of 6 months after the fellowship decision.
- Final year PhD students can apply but all PhD requirements must be completed before the fellowship start date.

4. Application Documents

- **Curriculum Vitae (CV):** Detailed CV including full publications list, links for Google Scholar and LinkedIn Profiles, any postdoctoral research experience, areas of expertise, technical/methodological skills, brief description of previous research projects with your specific contributions.
- PhD diploma or an official letter confirming PhD completion within 6 months.
- Three letters of recommendation, one of which must be from the candidate's PhD advisor. These letters should be confidential and emailed by the reference faculty directly to postdocoffice@ku.edu.tr with a subject line: KU Postdoctoral Fellowship Reference Letter.
- **Project proposal:** Submit a single PDF with (a) a **Project Abstract** (max 300 words) summarizing the problem, approach, and expected outcomes (e.g., high-impact publications, competitive grant applications), and (b) a **Research Plan** (max 2 pages; 11-pt font; ≥2 cm margins) outlining Specific Aims, Background & Innovation, Approach (methods, feasibility, risks), Milestones & Timeline, and the interdisciplinary dimension of the project. It should also explain how the fellowship will advance the applicant's independence and training.
- **Supervisor(s):** Candidates may have a single supervisor or multiple co-supervisors from different departments. Applicants must secure endorsement from supervisor(s) and include an acceptance letter with their CV. Each letter must also provide a maximum one-page **Mentoring & Training Plan** describing access to resources, opportunities for professional development, and expectations for supervision. In addition, supervisors must confirm that they can support the fellow and the proposed project with the necessary consumables, infrastructure, and expertise. Applicants are strongly advised to contact potential supervisors in advance to confirm project alignment and mutual interest.
- If applicable, international applicants may request visa and relocation support during the onboarding process.

5. Application Process

- **Deadlines:** March 31, 2026
- **Submission:** Applications must be submitted electronically to postdocoffice@ku.edu.tr with the subject line: "KU Postdoctoral Fellowship".
- **Compliance:** Incomplete or non-compliant applications (including page limits) will not be evaluated.

6. Application Evaluation and Progress Monitoring

- All new and renewal applications are reviewed by the **Koç University Fellowship Committee**.
- The committee evaluates the candidates based on the expected academic qualifications mentioned in item 1, project proposal novelty/significance, supervisor fit, and resource availability.
- **Progress Monitoring:** The fellow's annual performance will be evaluated based on research output, supervisor feedback, mentorship activities, and research and other university contributions.
- **Grant Applications:** Outcomes of national and international grant applications will be taken into account during the annual performance review.